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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, June 28, 2021, at 9 a.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 2021

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the Earth. Your glory fills the Earth and is exalted above the heavens.

All we need do is look around us: at the intricate details and the artistry of nature, at the handiwork that has woven the tapestry of the stars arranged above us at night, at the perfect order of the rising and setting of the Sun and the orbit of the Moon.

To ponder the complexity of Your creation is overwhelming. Who are we, O God, that You should even take notice of us?

Why, when there is so much to tend to on this Earth, would You seek so passionately to care for us?

And yet, You have given us dominion over all of this. You have entrusted us with the stewardship of all these wonderful resources.

O Lord, our Lord, how abundant is Your grace. How boundless is Your love. How excellent is Your name in all the Earth.

May we take the opportunity to enjoy all your blessings, and may we be worthy of the responsibility You have laid on us.

In Your sovereign name we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GARCIA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. GARCIA of Texas led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

NEED FOR AFFORDABLE CHILDCARE

(Ms. GARCIA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the crisis caused by the lack of childcare in my district and across the country. Access to affordable childcare is critical for working families across the country and in my district.

We all have heard of places without grocery stores referred to as food

deserts. Well, half of American families live in areas lacking childcare facilities. They are living in childcare deserts.

The situation is even worse in Latino communities, as 78 percent live in childcare deserts.

As you can see on this chart by my side, this is my district. The orange and the dark colors represent areas that have no access to childcare. Eighty-two percent of the children in my district have no access to childcare. This is a childcare desert. This impacts disproportionately communities of color. This is unacceptable.

As a Nation, we must invest in childcare. High-quality childcare improves outcomes for children, parents, and neighborhoods. We must act and we must act now.

NEED FOR AN ORIGIN OF COVID-19 INVESTIGATION

(Mr. KELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues across the aisle appear eager to investigate and hold hearings on just about anything, but when 200 Republicans and I urged the Speaker to investigate the origins of COVID-19 a month ago, the Speaker did nothing.

Evidence is now mounting that COVID-19 may have escaped from a lab in Wuhan, China, and the Chinese Communist Party worked to cover it up.

Pointblank, this coverup by the CCP cost American lives, shuttered tens of

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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